



Washington State Commission on

Asian Pacific American Affairs

Leader in
ADVOCACY

[Website](#) | [Commissioners](#) | [Services](#) | [Legislation](#) | [Events](#) | [News](#) | [Contact Us](#)

E-Legislative Update

April 11 – 17, 2011



We are in the fourteenth week of the legislative session. You can [contact your legislator](#) making your position on a bill known. You can do so by writing a letter, sending an e-mail, calling the legislator's Olympia office, or by calling the Legislative Hotline at 1-800-562-6000.

Because the state budget is an overarching issue, the Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs will provide updates on important milestones in budget development as well as focus on bills that impact the Asian American and Pacific Islander community in the areas of education, health care, human services, economic development, and immigration. To learn more about the current budget, you can attend the House Ways & Means and Senate Finance Committee Hearings.

The Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs will be providing information weekly through our e-legislative update and website on committee hearings, bills, and other events of interest throughout the legislative session. Our e-legislative update provides a general overview highlighting a few bills of interest to the community while our website hosts a more extensive list of bills utilizing a [bill tracking](#) feature for those community members seeking more information. Highlights from the previous week can be viewed on [TVW's](#) Legislative Review.

You may also access our [policy briefing papers](#) which examine issues facing the Asian American and Pacific Islander community.

Special Highlights: On a state level, House Democrats released their budget on April 4th proposing a plan to close a \$5 billion state budget shortfall. The budget contains \$4.4 billion in reductions and cuts, including carrying forward actions taken in budget bills passed last December and February. Two days later, House Republicans unveiled an alternative plan that was introduced in the House Ways and Means Committee as an amendment to the Democrat's proposal. The Senate budget is expected to come out in the near future. The House budget proposal can be viewed [here](#), along with the Senate budget when available. The legislative session is scheduled to end on April 24, 2011.

On a federal level, the government faces a partial shutdown Friday at midnight if Congress does not take action. A partial shutdown of government agencies would close national parks, passport offices, and turn off the IRS taxpayer information hotline for a week. Other essential federal workers would stay working. Social security payments would still go out and the mail would be delivered.

Information is current as of: April 6, 2011.

To find out more information on a particular bill, please visit <http://www.leg.wa.gov>.

CAPAA was established by the state legislature in 1974 to improve the well-being of Asian Pacific Americans (APAs) by insuring their access to participation in the fields of government, business, education, and other areas. It has a board made up of 12-governor appointed members that represent the diverse APA communities of Washington State.

To receive more electronic updates, visit us at <http://www.capaa.wa.gov>. To unsubscribe, [click here](#).